

CITY OF ISSAQUAH

MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (MDNS)

Description of Proposal: Confluence Park includes approximately 15.5 acres located in Olde Town neighborhood of Issaquah. Three adjacent City-owned parcels (Cybil-Madeline Green, Tolle Anderson Homestead, and Margaret's Meadow) currently comprise Confluence Park. The majority of the property currently serves as open space and buffer to the main stem and east fork of Issaquah Creek.

The proposed project is part of Phase II of the Park construction and includes the design, engineering, permitting, and construction of a pedestrian bridge linking the portion of Confluence Park east of Issaquah Creek to Margaret's Meadow, the area west of the creek adjacent to the Issaquah School District property. The project also includes an upgrade to the existing play structure near the corner of Rainier Boulevard North and NW Holly Street, a parking lot at Margaret's Meadow, and trails as outlined in the Master Site Plan.

Proponent: City of Issaquah Parks Department, Jennifer Fink
301 Rainier Blvd S. Issaquah, WA. 98027

Permit Number: SHO16-0003 – Confluence Park Bridge

Location of Proposal: Confluence Park, 595 Rainier Blvd. N

Lead Agency: City of Issaquah

Determination: The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

Comment/Appeal Period: This Mitigated Determination of Nonsignificance is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2) and 197-11-680(3)(a)vii, and is based on the proposal being conditioned as indicated below. There is a 21-day combined comment/appeal period for this determination, between **March 23, 2016 to April 12, 2016**. Anyone wishing to comment may submit written comments to the Responsible Official. The Responsible Official will reconsider the determination based on timely comments. Any person aggrieved by this determination may appeal by filing a Notice of Appeal with the City of Issaquah Permit Center. Appellants should prepare specific factual objections. Copies of the environmental determination and other project application materials are available from the Issaquah Development Services Department, 1775 12th Avenue NW.

Appeals of this SEPA determination must be consolidated with appeal of the underlying permit, per IMC 18.04.250.

Notes:

- 1) This threshold determination is based on review of the project plans dated January 2016; the SEPA Checklist dated February 2016; public comment; review by the City's River & Streams Board on 1 March 2016; and, other documents in the file.
- 2) Issuance of this threshold determination does not constitute approval of the shoreline permit. The proposal will be reviewed for compliance with all applicable City of Issaquah codes, which regulate

development activities, including the Land Use Code, Critical Area Regulations, Building Codes, Clearing and Grading Ordinance, and Surface Water Design Manual.

Findings:

1. The bridge causes shading impacts on Issaquah Creek.
2. Proposed improvements within the creek buffers should be minimized.
3. Lighting can impact fish and wildlife habitat. No lighting was provided in the construction drawings, but lighting was discussed in the SEPA Checklist.
4. Sub-standard trail improvements promote impacts to vegetative areas.

Mitigation Measures: The Mitigated Determination of Nonsignificance is based on the checklist received, public comments and supplemental information in the application. The following SEPA mitigation measures shall be deemed conditions of the approval of the licensing decision pursuant to Chapter 18.10 of the Issaquah Land Use Code. All conditions are based on policies adopted by reference in the Land Use Code.

1. Reduce the width of the bridge to a 11-foot deck, maximum.
2. Lighting, if any, shall be limited to that necessary for pedestrian safety, low-level, shielded and directed away from the creeks or their buffers.
3. Widen the 3-foot gravel path on Construction Sheet 6 to 4-foot minimum.
4. Move viewing platform outside of 100-year floodplain of Issaquah Creek; or, ensure the platform is built at native grade and the seat wall is moved or redesigned to not pose an impediment to flood waters.

Responsible SEPA Official: Keith Niven, AICP

Position/Title: Economic Development Director & Interim Development Services Director

Address/Phone: P.O. Box 1307, Issaquah, WA 98027-1307 (425) 837-3430

Date: 3/15/2016

Signature: 

cc:
Washington State Department of Ecology
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
Issaquah Development Services Department
Issaquah Parks and Public Works Engineering Departments